
Introduced by Senator McGuire
(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Dodd)

February 2, 2016

An act to amend Section 8686 of the Government Code, relating to disaster relief, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 937, as introduced, McGuire. Disaster relief: County of Lake: fires.

The California Disaster Assistance Act generally provides that the state share for disaster project allocations to local agencies is no more than 75% of total state eligible costs, except for specified events for which the state share is up to 100% of state eligible costs.

This bill would add the forest fires that occurred in the County of Lake in 2015 to the list of events for which the state share of state eligible cost is up to 100%.

This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Vote: $\frac{2}{3}$. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature hereby finds and declares that
2 in 2015 the County of Lake was ravaged by three incredibly
3 destructive fires: the Rocky, The Jerusalem, and the Valley
4 complexes. Together these fires burned a combined 170,623 acres,
5 representing over half of the area of the incidents managed by the

1 Department of Forestry and Fire Protection statewide. The Valley
2 fire by itself ranked as the third worst in the history of California,
3 destroying 1,955 structures and causing over \$1.3 billion in
4 damages to the County of Lake.

5 SEC. 2. Section 8686 of the Government Code is amended to
6 read:

7 8686. (a) For any eligible project, the state share shall amount
8 to no more than 75 percent of total state eligible costs.

9 (b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), the state share shall be up
10 to 100 percent of total state eligible costs connected with the
11 following events:

12 (1) The October 17, 1989, Loma Prieta earthquake.

13 (2) The October 20, 1991, East Bay fire.

14 (3) The fires that occurred in southern California from October
15 1, 1993, to November 30, 1993, inclusive.

16 (4) The January 17, 1994, Northridge earthquake.

17 (5) Storms that occurred in California during the periods
18 commencing January 3, 1995, and February 13, 1995, as specified
19 in agreements between this state and the United States for federal
20 financial assistance.

21 (6) The storms that occurred in California in December of 1996
22 and early January of 1997, as specified in agreements between this
23 state and the United States for federal financial assistance.

24 (7) The winter storms and flooding that occurred from February
25 1, 1998, to April 30, 1998, inclusive, as specified in agreements
26 between this state and the United States for federal financial
27 assistance.

28 (8) The wildfires that occurred in southern California
29 commencing October 21, 2003, as specified in agreements between
30 this state and the United States for federal financial assistance.

31 (9) The December 22, 2003, San Simeon earthquake, as
32 specified in agreements between this state and the United States
33 for federal financial assistance.

34 (10) The severe storms, flooding, debris flows, and mudslides
35 that occurred during December 27, 2004, to January 11, 2005,
36 inclusive, in southern California, as specified in agreements
37 between this state and the United States for federal financial
38 assistance.

39 (11) The severe storms, flooding, landslides, and mud and debris
40 flows that occurred in southern California during the period from

1 February ~~16~~ 16, 2005, to February 23, 2005, inclusive, as specified
2 in agreements between this state and the United States for federal
3 financial assistance.

4 (12) The severe storms, flooding, mudslides, and landslides that
5 occurred in northern California during the period from December
6 17, 2005, to January 3, 2006, inclusive, as specified in agreements
7 between this state and the United States for federal financial
8 assistance.

9 (13) The severe storms and flooding that occurred in northern
10 and central California during the period from March 29, 2006, to
11 April 16, 2006, inclusive, as specified in agreements between this
12 state and the United States for federal financial assistance.

13 (14) *The forest fires that occurred in the County of Lake in 2015.*

14 (c) For any federally declared disaster subsequent to January 1,
15 1995, that the Legislature has designated in subdivision (b), the
16 state shall assume the increased share specified in subdivision (b)
17 in those cases where the Federal Emergency Management Agency
18 or another applicable federal agency has approved the federal share
19 of costs.

20 (d) The state shall make no allocation for any project application
21 resulting in a state share of less than two thousand five hundred
22 dollars (\$2,500) under this section.

23 SEC. 3. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the
24 immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within
25 the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go into
26 immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

27 In order to timely provide essential relief to those persons who
28 have suffered damage or loss as a result of the forest fires that
29 occurred in the County of Lake in 2015, it is necessary that this
30 act take effect immediately.